

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 182ND ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, the American people join with the people of Greece in celebrating the 182nd anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire.

The bedrock of our close relationship with Greece is our mutual devotion to freedom and democracy and our unshakable determination to fight, if need be, to protect these rights.

Greek philosophers and political leaders—Cleisthenes and Pericles and their successors—had great influence upon America's Founding Fathers in their creation of these United States.

We, as a nation, owe a great debt to Greece. Greece is the birthplace of democracy, as we know it.

Thomas Jefferson said, "To the ancient Greeks, we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves (American colonists) out of Gothic darkness."

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, were an attack on democracy and freedom—not just against our people, but also against all freedom-loving people everywhere in the world. The Greek people understand this.

I congratulate the people of Greece and wish them a Happy National Birthday.

INTRODUCTION OF ENERGY TAX LEGISLATION

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest problems facing the United States today is our lack of national energy independence.

The United States' dependence upon foreign sources of oil is simply unacceptable for a country rich in natural resources and equipped with the capability to develop these resources as a means of increasing our national security. At the height of the energy crisis during the 1970s, the United States imported 46 percent of our oil supply. Today, it is estimated that we import approximately 55 percent of all energy used in this country. As America's energy consumption increases, our need to produce more energy rises as well. Unfortunately, supply is not meeting demand, and our increased reliance on foreign sources of energy has potentially disastrous consequences for our national security.

At the same time, we have to acknowledge that energy independence cannot be attained through production alone. Though Congress should strongly encourage the production of energy sources as diverse as oil, gas, wind and solar power, we should also encourage the increased conservation of energy.

I believe the United States needs a balanced, forward-looking energy policy for the 21st century. For this reason, today I am introducing legislation that will provide needed in-

centives for the increased production of oil, natural gas, wind and solar power by our small, independent producers, as well as measures to encourage increased conservation of energy.

My bill would provide tax incentives for independent oil and gas producers to maintain production from marginal wells and develop nonconventional fuel sources such as coalbed methane and natural gas from tight sands formations. Further, my legislation would spur development of energy from renewable sources by providing a tax credit for residential solar energy production and electricity generation from wind and other sources.

Any balanced energy plan must acknowledge that Americans need to increase our conservation efforts in an attempt to move closer to energy independence. To that end, my legislation would provide incentives to homeowners to make energy efficient home improvements that decrease their consumption of energy.

Additionally, my legislation would encourage the production of cars powered by fuel cells and hybrid engines. Fuel cell technology holds enormous potential for the future, and the Federal Government has an important role to play in the development and use of this clean, renewable energy source.

The United States will not achieve energy independence overnight, and we must acknowledge that it will take years before America attains a greater level of energy independence. My legislation will move our country in the right direction and bring us closer to the day when we can reduce our dependence upon foreign sources of energy and increase our national energy independence.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAMELA H. SMITH-BEATTY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Pamela H. Smith-Beatty for her faithful service of 22 years to the United States Air Force.

Pamela began her career in the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force Medical Service in Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. She continued to serve in various locations, including North Dakota, Louisiana, Texas, California, Illinois, Maryland, Korea, and Florida. Throughout her career in these locations, Pamela devotedly performed her duties primarily as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, but also as a Deputy Flight Commander and a Deputy Chief Nurse. Pamela has been honored with several awards, including a Space Command Field Grade Nurse of the Year award, a Meritorious Service Medal, a Commendation Medal, and an Achievement Medal. Pamela will be greatly missed by her co-workers, and greatly appreciated by her country.

I am honored today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Pamela H. Smith-Beatty for her auspicious dedication to serving her country.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CAROL HOTTENROTT

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding naval officer, Commander Carol Hottenrott, who served with distinction and dedication during the past year for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, FM&C, as a Navy Appropriations Liaison Officer in the Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize her many outstanding achievements and commend her for the superb service she has provided to the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our great Nation as a whole.

During her tenure in the Appropriations Matters Office, which began in March of 2002, Commander Hottenrott has provided members of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense as well as our professional and associate staffs with timely and accurate support regarding the Department of the Navy's Operations and Maintenance, Personnel and medical programs budget accounts. Her valuable contributions have enabled the Defense Subcommittee and the Department of the Navy to strengthen its close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped Naval Forces attainable for the defense of our great Nation.

Commander Carol Hottenrott has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the Navy and on Capitol Hill. She continues to be recognized as a truly unique naval officer and is one of a very select group of female naval officers to command a ship. She distinguished herself as a Commanding Officer of a Mine hunting ship and has been selected for command of another combat vessel. Exemplifying the best this country has to offer, she has made many personal sacrifices in the interest of the Navy and our Nation. Having worked with her on the highly complex operations and maintenance issues impacting the port of San Diego, I know she is a wonderful person and officer, and a bright and talented individual. Although she departs today to return to sea on the staff of the new Pacific Expeditionary Strike Group, I expect that she will continue rising through the Navy leadership ranks and that we will have many opportunities to work together again in the future. I wish her every success in her new job, and call upon my colleagues to join me in wishing her "fair winds and following seas."

NOMINEES FOR THE REGIONAL ACADEMIC ALL-STAR TEAM FROM THE PENNYROYAL REGION IN WESTERN KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize nominees for the Regional Academic All-Star Team from the Pennyroyal region in western Kentucky.

The regional Academic All-Star program's purpose is to recognize top academic scholars